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E-Mail: POSHEA@SGSLAW.COM**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION****TO:** EXAMINAR BAREFORD**COMPANY:** USPTO - Art Unit 1762**FAX NO:** (703) 305-6078**DATE:** July 18, 2000**FROM:** Patrick J. O'Shea**Re:****NO. OF PAGES TO FOLLOW:** 2**REMARKS:**

See attached. Regards.

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Lou W. Watkins                      GROUP: 1762  
SERIAL NO: 09/464,997                      EXAMINER: Ex. Bareford  
FILED: December 16, 1999  
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR APPLYING SYNTACTIC  
FOAM THERMAL INSULATION TO A LENGTH OF PIPE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the claims in this application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 9 as follows:

9. A method of forming an insulating product for a length of pipe, said method comprising the steps of:
- Sub 3* co-extruding an inner syntactic foam insulator and an outer protective cover; and rapidly solidifying said protective cover.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, to the attention of Examiner Bareford, Art Unit 1762, at facsimile number (703) 305-6078 on July 18, 2000.

*Patrick J. O'Shea*  
Patrick J. O'Shea